

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 01440 241545Z

45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 OPIC-12 IGA-02 AID-20

OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 AGR-20 STR-08 CIEP-02 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /139 W
----- 046630

R 241345Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5531

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS COTONOU 1440

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, DM, US

SUBJECT: U.S. INVESTMENT: \$4.5 MILLION TOMATO PASTE PLANT

LANG ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF CORAL GABLES, FL. SIGNED CONTRACT WITH MRGD ON SEPTEMBER 15 IN COTONOU TO ESTABLISH SUBJECT PLANT IN WHICH GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE MAJORITY OWNERSHIP. MEMBERS OF LANG DELEGATION HEADED BY VICE PRESIDENT NELSON ANDERSON WERE GUESTS OF FINANCE MINISTER JANVIER ASSOGBA AT LUNCHEON AND LATER OFFERED RECEPTION ATTENDED BY NUMEROUS MRGD REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING FINANCE, JUSTIC AND PTT MINISTERS.

AGREEMENT CALLS FOR LANG TO PRODUCE PRELIMINARY STUDY OF PROJECT WITHIN ONE TO TWO MONTHS FOLLOWED BY COMPLETION OF FEASIBILITY STUDY IN SIX MONTHS. AFTER MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROJECT FEASIBLE, AND LANG HAS TOLD GOVERNMENT IT OPTIMISTIC ON THIS SCORE, LANG WILL CONSTRUCT PLANT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TRANSFORM 30,000 TONS OF TOMATOES ANNUALLY INTO 3,000 TONS OF PASTE. LANG WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGEMENT OF PROJECT, AND HAS AGREED TO TRAIN
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BOTH TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL WORKERS WITH A VIEW TOWARDS

TURNING COMPLETE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PLANT OVER TO DAHOMEANS.

HIGHLIGHT OF LANG VISIT WAS CALL ON PRESIDENT KEREKOU, WHO REITERATED GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN WELCOMING PRIVATE AMERICAN INVESTMENT, AND ASSURED FULL MRGD COOPERATION WITH THIS AND FUTURE PROJECTS. HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO THANK EMBASSY FOR ITS ROLE IN HELPING TO REALIZE TOMATO PROJECT, AND HOPED WE WOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK U.S. PRIVATE INVESTMENTS, WHICH CAN BE THE KEY TO COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY CEMENT AND PEANUT PROJECTS AS TOP GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES WHERE HE HOPED SUCH INVESTMENT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

ANDERSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 24 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COTONO01440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730916/aaaaalfv.tel
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. INVESTMENT: \$4.5 MILLION TOMATO PASTE PLANT LANG ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF CORAL GABLES, FL. SIGNED CONTRACT
TAGS: BGEN, DM, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005